

Each of the speakers commended the residents of the valley for their fine spirit of cooperation in making the park possible.

"The history of Utah is a history of cooperation and there has never been a greater story than this one here," Governor Clyde remarked.

President Moyle encouraged everyone to show continued "statesmanship" in bringing the reality of the park to fulfillment.

"I believe we could follow no wiser course than to permit the state to outline the course to follow because the State Park Commission are sufficiently removed to paint a much more impartial, more fair and wiser picture of the park development and bring it to successful use. This is not alone a Heber Valley park, nor just a state park, it is a national project and those who have contributed are to be highly praised," President Moyle said.

In the meantime, the Wasatch County Commission took steps to zone a half-mile buffer area around the park to prohibit commercial developments and land speculation in the areas nearest the park site. The zoning prohibited all but farms and single dwellings within one-half mile of the park.

The cooperation of Wasatch residents in bringing about the park won recognition throughout the state, but to those in the county it was another pioneering step and another record of accomplishment and achievement by its governing board, the Wasatch County Commission.

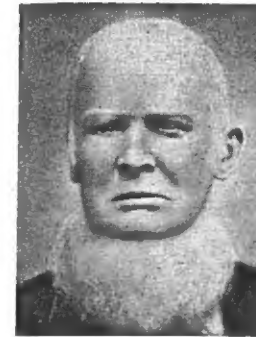
County government, as noted in the previous chapter, began in 1862 with the formation of the county court and appointment of selectmen as officers of the court. The board of selectmen served in the county until 1896 when statehood was granted Utah, and the commission form of county government was adopted.

Many changes have occurred in a century of life in the valley, with government influence growing from Church-centered control to an active board of commissioners. Yet, in spite of a more complex organization, the fundamental principles of county government have remained constant. The early minute books of the old selectmen and the latest records of the county commission all reflect a desire on the part of elected officials to set aside partisanship and selfishness and give citizens throughout the valley effective and efficient leadership.

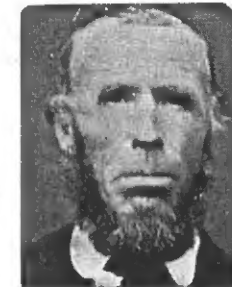
As noted in the previous chapter, the first county organization was established on January 17, 1862, by act of the Territorial Legislature. The various offices of county government designated at that time were as follows:

Probate Judge, elected by the legislature; three county selectmen, elected by voters of the county, with the judge and the selectmen to constitute the county court. There was also a clerk appointed by the court, a treasurer elected by voters for a four-year term; a notary public, elected by the Legislature; a county surveyor, elected by the county; three election judges, appointed by the court; three school board trustees,

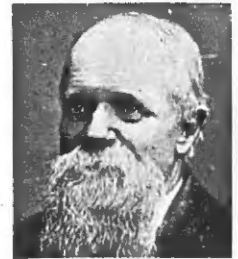
First Officials of Wasatch County



John W. Witt
Judge



Thomas Todd
Selectman



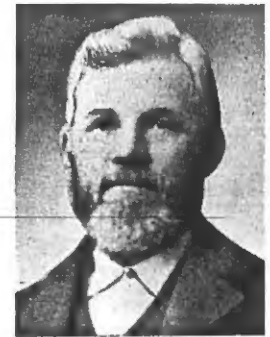
James Duke
Selectman



John H. Van Wagoner
Selectman



John Harvey
Assessor and Collector



John M. Murdock
Treasurer



Thomas H. Giles
Superintendent of common
schools



John Hamilton
Sheriff

Snelling M. Johnson
Sheriff
(No picture available)

John Sessions
Surveyor
(No picture available)

elected by the voters; a county school superintendent, appointed by the court; an assessor and collector, appointed by the court; a recorder, elected by voters; a surveyor, appointed by the court; a prosecuting attorney, elected by the Legislature; a sheriff, elected by the people; a Justice of Peace and coroner, and two constables for each precinct, elected; an estray pound keeper for each precinct, elected; two fence viewers in each precinct, elected; a road commissioner, appointed by the court and precinct road supervisors to be elected in each precinct.

The Legislature elected John W. Witt as probate judge in the county and on February 22, 1862, Judge Witt organized the county organization as follows: Selectmen, Thomas Todd, James Duke and John H. Van Wagoner; assessor and collector, John Harvey; Sheriff, Snelling M. Johnson; treasurer, John M. Murdoch; surveyor, John Sessions and Thomas H. Giles, superintendent of common schools.

The court divided the county into two precincts. All the area east of the Provo River was placed in Precinct No. 1 and Thomas Rasband was appointed Justice of the Peace with Zemira Palmer as constable. Precinct No. 2 was all the area west of the Provo River, and Horton Jacobs was named Justice of the Peace. Sidney Epperson was constable. Clerk of the court was Charles Shelton.

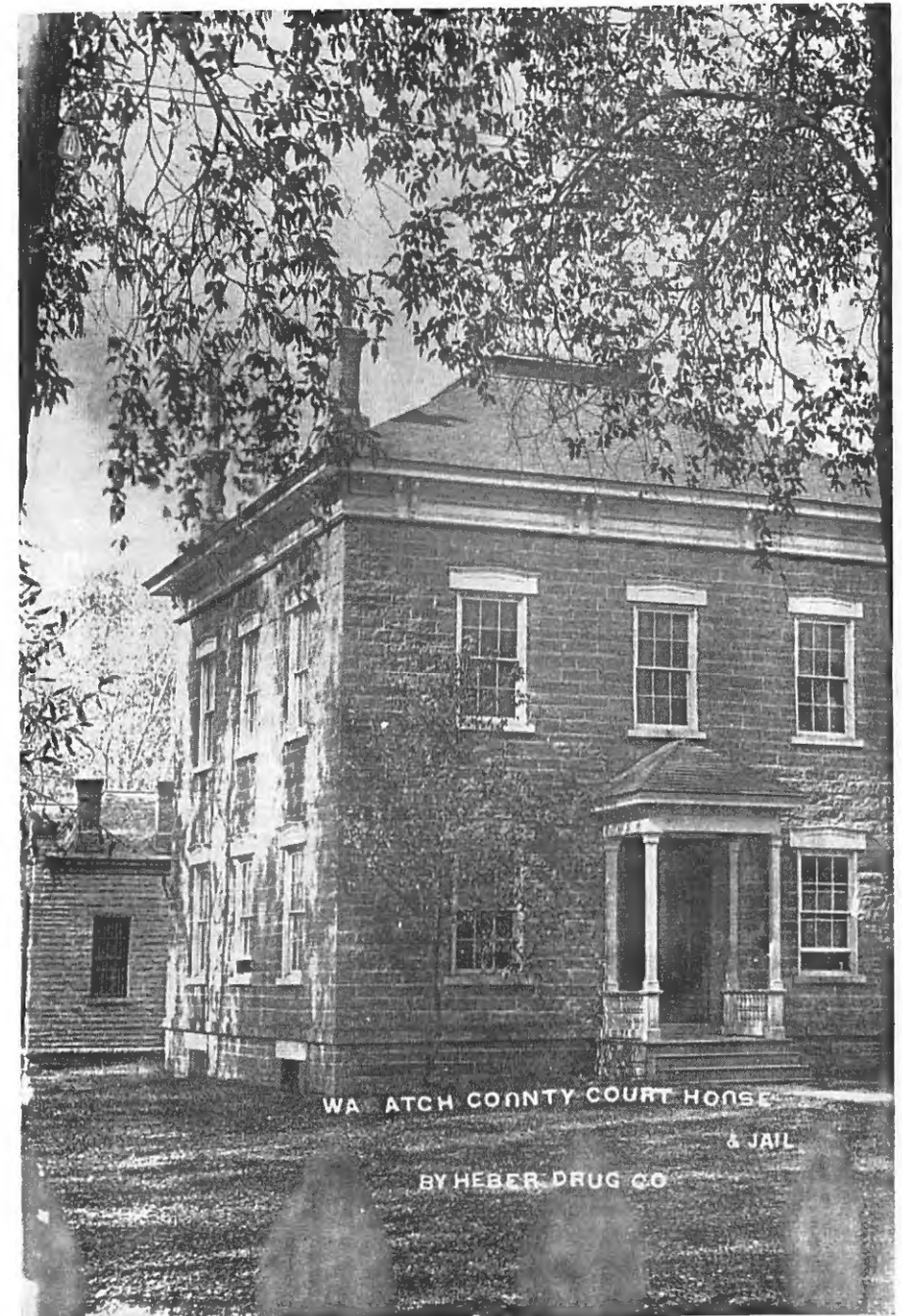
Until the time of statehood the county court headed by the Probate Judge constituted the chief legal power of the county. By act of Congress the Probate Judge was also a key figure in land titles, having power to enter claims in the U.S. Land Office and receive titles in return for those inhabiting the lands. Many land titles today are still traced back to a deed from the old probate judges.

With the passage of time the probate judge and the county court were weakened as state and federal governmental bodies began to centralize their controls. In 1864 the Federal Government restricted the legal power of the Probate Court to the settlement of estates, guardianships and divorce matters.

Additional responsibilities for the Probate or County Court came in 1872 when the selectmen were appointed by the Legislature to erect a county jail and act as directors of the establishment, and in 1878 when the court was appointed as a Board of Equalization to adjust tax assessments and appoint election judges for each precinct.

In 1880, however, provisions of the Edmunds-Tucker Act made the office of Probate Judge an appointment of the President of the United States and transferred all divorce actions from the probate to district court. Election laws were also changed, taking power away from the probate court. The office of county clerk was made an elective position in 1888 and in that same year the precinct and county road offices were consolidated into the office of District Road Supervisor.

The most drastic changes in county government came in 1896 when



The Wasatch County Court House constructed between 1878 and 1882. In the background is the County Jail.

Utah became a state. All county offices became elected positions, and included the following:

Three commissioners, two with four-year terms and one with a two-year term; county clerk, recorder, auditor, treasurer, assessor, attorney, and surveyor, all four-year terms. The offices of clerk, recorder and auditor were later combined in 1899.

Probate judges who served until statehood included Judge Witt, 1862-1868; Abram Hatch, 1868-1874; Thomas H. Giles, 1874-1884; Thomas S. Watson, 1884-1894; William S. Willes, 1894-1896.

Selectmen who served in the era prior to statehood included Thomas Todd, James Duke, John H. Van Wagoner, Sidney Epperson, Henry McMullin Sr., D. A. Sessions, David Van Wagoner, John McDonald, John W. Witt, William H. Nuttall, H. L. Anderson, John Watkins, Abram Hatch, William McDonald, George W. Clyde, Alva J. Alexander, Joseph R. Murdock, Harmon Cummings, John Clyde, Charles I. Bronson, John A. Mecham, Wilford Van Wagoner and Isaac O. Wall.

Probate judges and selectmen held many of their early meetings in the old LDS Tithing Office, a sandstone building on Main Street and First North. Later a County Court House was proposed and on March 4, 1878, the south half of the public square was selected as the court house site. Thomas H. Giles and Abram Hatch were appointed to direct the erection of the building.

Records of the construction work are incomplete, but work apparently was underway by June since the records show authorization to pay claims of contractors as of June 3, 1878. On September 2, 1878, authorization was granted by the selectmen for borrowing necessary funds to finish at least one room of the building, but work apparently lagged as construction was still being recorded in the minutes on March 8, 1880.

By September 6, 1880, the court house committee reported to the selectmen that expenditures totaled \$3,793.66. Work was apparently completed by September of 1882 when costs were reported at about \$4,600, plus \$250 for furniture. Further records show installation of a safe in 1886, landscaping in 1889 and then additional construction and remodeling to the building's present condition in 1924.

From the beginning, selectmen had many problems to solve. Roads had to be located, bridges built, rights of property safeguarded and money collected to meet expenses. This latter tax often proved the most difficult. One entry in the minutes of the selectmen reads as follows:

"The assessor reports, taxes assessed. Collected, \$147.18. Taxes past due \$327.23." The minutes of the next session tersely states: "A new assessor and collector was appointed."

Other problems facing the selectmen included requests for help in repairing or replacing bridges damaged or destroyed by flood waters, called for fence viewers to determine correct property lines, petitions to



Wasatch County officials of 1961. Front row, left to right: Wayne C. Whiting, county clerk and recorder; Guy E. Coleman, chairman of the county commission; William J. Bond, county commissioner; Walter Montgomery, county commissioner; Second row: Guy Duke, assessor; Mary Chipman, deputy clerk; June Wheeler, treasurer; Shirley Chatwin, deputy clerk; Ethel Giles, secretary to the county agent; Mary Bacon, home demonstration agent; Back Row, Paul Daniels, county agricultural agent; Floyd Witt, sheriff; Jerry Smith, deputy sheriff; A. D. Buys, justice of the peace of the Heber precinct; Albin Hansen, custodian of the court house and grounds. Richard L. Maxfield, county attorney.

establish herd ground on public domain and requests from citizens for protection from the influx of excessive livestock from other counties.

There were also the legal problems related to justice and the suppression of crime. Business licenses and franchise also had to be granted, and liquor control had to be enforced. For a period, also, the selectmen had responsibilities for directing the school precincts and the superintendent.

Statehood in 1896 brought a full county commission organization, with John Clyde, Isaac O. Wall and Wilford Van Wagoner selected as the first commissioners.

Salaries for those first selected included \$100 a year for commissioners; \$650 per year for the sheriff; \$500 per year for the clerk, with the recorder receiving \$200 per year, the surveyor \$100 per year and the county superintendent of schools \$360 per year.

Those who have served as commissioners through the years have included the following: 1897, Wilford Van Wagoner, Thomas Clotworthy, William Daybell. 1899, Thomas Clotworthy, Isaac O. Wall and Richard Jones. 1901, Henry Clift, A. M. Murdock, Henry T. Coleman, 1903, John E. Austin, F. A. Fraughton, Henry T. Coleman. 1905, John E. Austin, F. A. Fraughton, Jacob Probst. 1907, Jacob Probst, E. J.

Cummings, Barr W. Musser. 1909, E. J. Cummings, Geo. W. Daybell, John W. Moffitt. 1911, E. J. Cummings, George Daybell, John W. Moffitt. 1913, H. W. Harvey, E. J. Cummings, John W. Moffitt. 1915, H. W. Harvey, E. J. Cummings, John M. Ritchie. 1917, Wilford Van Wagoner, E. J. Cummings, John M. Ritchie. 1919, George A. Huntington, H. W. Harvey, John M. Ritchie. 1921, John Van Wagoner, H. W. Harvey, J. Parley Edwards. 1923, John A. Fortie, John M. Ritchie, J. Parley Edwards. 1925, Andrew Murdock, John M. Ritchie, Clark Bronson. 1927, Andrew Murdock, Paul Hunt, Nels J. Johnson. 1929, Jesse Nelson, Paul Hunt, Sumner Hatch. (1931, Jesse Nelson, Guy E. Coleman, Sumner Hatch. 1933, Jesse Nelson, Guy E. Coleman, Sumner Hatch. 1935, Jesse Nelson, Guy E. Coleman, Joseph T. Murdock. 1937, H. Clay Cummings, Guy E. Coleman, George A. Gardner. 1939, H. Clay Cummings, Guy E. Coleman, Jesse Nelson. 1941, Guy E. Coleman, Jesse Nelson, Harry Morris. 1943, Guy E. Coleman, Jesse Nelson, John Anderson. 1945, Guy E. Coleman, Jesse Nelson, John Anderson. 1947, Guy E. Coleman, Floyd Bonner, John Anderson. 1949, Guy E. Coleman, Clyde Ritchie, Heber R. Winterton. 1951, Guy E. Coleman, Clyde Ritchie, Heber R. Winterton. 1953, Guy E. Coleman, James L. Barnes, Heber R. Winterton. 1955, Guy E. Coleman, William J. Bond, James L. Barnes. 1957, Guy E. Coleman, William J. Bond, Elmo A. Jacobsen, 1959, Guy E. Coleman, William J. Bond, Walter Montgomery.

Treasurers having held office are: John M. Murdock, James Duke, William H. McDonald, Joseph Hatch, Robert Duke, Richard Tilt, William McMillan, LaVina Murdock, Millie Witt, Gladys Briggs, Geneva B. Clift, Mabel Murdock, Mary L. Giles, Grace Crook (Buys) June J. Wheeler.

Assessors: John Harvey, Thomas H. Giles, Charles N. Carroll, John Huber, George Giles, J. W. Witt, Thomas Hicken Jr., P. H. McGuire, Jacob Probst, J. Parley Edwards, J. T. Pyper, Guy Duke.

Surveyors: John Sessions, William Buys, S. A. Bond, George Barzee, B. S. Kershaw, Edward Buys, Craig Harmiston, A. R. Duke and Harry A. Doppler.

Recorders and Clerks: Charles Shelton, John Gallagher, T. H. Giles, Joseph A. Murdock, John T. Giles, C. J. Wahlquist, James R. McNaughtan, Thomas S. Watson, James C. Jensen, Charles E. Bronson, Alfred Sharp, Wayne C. Whiting.

Attorneys: Silas Smith, R. Camp, William Buys, M. J. Shelton, W. S. Willes, C. J. Wahlquist, L. C. Montgomery, Edwin D. Hatch, George B. Stanley, Glen S. Hatch, Glen M. Hatch, J. Harold Call, Richard L. Maxfield.

Sheriffs: Snelling A. Johnson, John Hamilton, Richard Jones, John Clyde, J. H. Fraughton, James S. Murdock, W. S. Willis, Robert Clyde, William Bonner, J. O. Wall, Virgil Fraughton, George Durnell, William Murry, Charles McPhie, Eugene D. Payne, Floyd L. Witt.

The following have served as Representatives to Legislature: J. B. Wilson, John T. Giles, Rock M. Pope, W. L. Van Wagoner, George A. Fisher, Fredrick Crook, Paul Hunt, James B. Wilson, William L. Van Wagoner, Wayne C. Whiting, Don Clyde, Welby Young, Harold Stevens, Addison C. Moulton, Leland W. Ivers and Robert F. Clyde.

State senators from Wasatch County have been J. B. Wilson, J. W. Clyde and Glen M. Hatch, Jr. Robert F. Clyde is current representative



Guy E. Coleman, winner of the 1960 Mark Tuttle Award for outstanding county leadership during 30 years as a member of the Wasatch County Commission.

to the State Legislature. County school superintendents who served during the period before appointments were made by the Board of Education included Attewell Wootton Sr., Orson Ryan and D. A. Broadbent.

The name most prominently included in the Wasatch County Commission during the years has been that of Guy E. Coleman, who retired at the end of 1960 after more than 30 years as a commissioner. His record was the longest period of service as a county commissioner of anyone in the state of Utah.

As a tribute to his years of service, Mr. Coleman was presented the Mark Tuttle Award for outstanding county leadership during 1960. The award was given at the annual convention of the Utah Association of County Officials held in Salt Lake City in January, 1961.

Of his many accomplishments as a commissioner for 30 years and head of the commission for 20 of those years, Mr. Coleman took most pride in keeping the county debt free, especially during the difficult depression years, and still being able to carry out construction and public works projects as they were needed.

Other county commissioners or officers who have given long years of service include Jesse Nelson, 18 years and E. J. Cummings 10 years; Guy Duke, county assessor for 39 years and still serving in 1961; John M. Ritchie and Alfred Sharp, county clerk, 30 years.

Service from the federal and state governments has been evident in the county through programs of the Cooperative Extension Service in agriculture and home economics. The program, administered in Wasatch County through the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Utah State University and the Wasatch County Commission, aims at helping people solve problems they encounter in agriculture, home economics, community improvements and civil defense.

Major areas of emphasis include efficiency in agricultural production, efficiency in marketing, distribution and utilization, conservation development and use of natural resources, management on the farm and in the home, family living, youth development which includes the 4-H program, leadership development, community improvement and resource development and an active public affairs program.

Officers of the Extension Service work with farm families and non-farm families alike, with rural and urban residents, farm organizations as well as individuals, and organizations that purchase, process and distribute farm produce. They also work with groups providing information, services or supplies to farm people.

The Cooperative Extension Service began in Wasatch County in September, 1917, when E. R. Price was appointed county agricultural agent. He served until June, 1925, and was succeeded by Lyman H. Rich, who worked in the county until November 30, 1930. Other county agents and their periods of service include Russell Keetch, November 30, 1930, to November 30, 1935; J. M. Peterson, December 1, 1935 to November

15, 1936; John J. Barnard, November 16, 1936 to September 14, 1944; Merrill E. Cook, September 15, 1944 to April 1, 1945; L. Darrell Stokes, June 15, 1948 to June 30, 1955, and Paul R. Daniels, July 1, 1955 to the present.

Adult home economics work was first conducted in 1917 also, but it was 1924 before a regular county home demonstration agent was appointed. She was Ruby Smith, and she served until 1928. From 1928 to 1948 the home economics program was under the direction of the county agricultural agents. Training was given by specialists through the Relief Society and other women's organizations. Special projects included bread making, salad making, home management, home-made household convenience, clothing, home nursing, first aid and personal hygiene.

In 1948, Mary R. Bacon was appointed as county home demonstration agent and still serves the county today. Because of the area's changing economy, and a greater number of women working, stress is being given today to the management of time, energy and money.

An influential program among Wasatch County youth has been the 4-H Club work. When the 4-H program began in 1917 there were 10 girls and 14 boys enrolled. Nine of the girls and 10 of the boys completed the program. Today, in 1961, the work has grown until there are 231 girls enrolled and 69 boys, with 220 of the girls and 61 of the boys completing a full course of activities. Adult leadership programs have also been successful in the county, with 98 persons from the valley attending 4-H leader's conferences.

Improvement of cultural activities in the valley has always been the concern of the commission, and in the 1920's the commissioners appropriated \$5,000 to purchase a site for county fair grounds. From this action has come the annual Wasatch County Fair and Livestock Show. Held in August of each year, the fair is anticipated for months in advance by those who make preparations and those who come to enjoy its many facets.

While the annual county fair began in the 1920's, celebrations and exhibits are nearly as old as the settlement of the valley. Typical of early celebrations was one held on July 4, 1863. Captain Thomas Todd's company of infantry announced the day's dawning with muskets, while the martial band played "Hail, Columbia." By 10 a.m. the citizens had met on the public square to participate in the processional. Leading off were members of the infantry company and the martial band. Prof. Greer and his pupils and then the citizens came next, with Sydney Epperson and a company of cavalry bringing up the rear. They marched to the bowery where Captain Todd and company fired salutes and a program began.

On the program, Bishop Joseph S. Murdock offered the invocation. Music was furnished by the choir, after which Judge Witt read the Declaration of Independence. The martial band then offered a salute and musical selection. President William M. Wall delivered an oration

about the causes which led to the country's founding fathers throwing off the yoke of tyranny. John Crook then sang the "Star Spangled Banner," after which James A. Smith and Richard Sessions addressed the congregation.

Following the addresses the band played "Auld Lang Syne," and toasts were proposed, with three cheers offered for the Fourth of July and for President Brigham Young.

Committee for the day's events included William M. Wall, John Witt, John M. Murdoch, John Galligher and John Hamilton the town marshal.

One of the first public exhibits in the community came in the early 1870's when a group of public spirited men organized what they called "The Agricultural Association." Through this group an exhibit of all local products was put together and free government seed was distributed to everyone interested. The exhibit or fair was held in the Old Hall or Social Hall on Main Street. This same association promoted fruit tree planting, and would make arrangements for anyone interested to obtain the desired trees.

Special fairs have been sponsored by several organizations during the years, and mention is made here of some occasioned by special events.



Emma Hatch (later Mrs. W. R. Wherritt) who was Wasatch County Queen when Utah became a state in 1896.

Utah's attainment of statehood in 1896 was a cause for celebration throughout the state and in Wasatch County as well. Each county in the state was invited to select a queen who would represent the area in the state-wide celebration as a maid of honor to the state's Carnival Queen.

Emma Hatch (Wherritt) was chosen as Wasatch County's representative and participated in many gala events.

An especially successful fair and celebration took place in 1924 when the Stake MIA, acting on a suggestion of the MIA General Board, sponsored a "Wasatch County Homecoming and Round-Up." Elder Oscar A. Kirkham of the general board visited with the stake and presented the idea, which was received with such overwhelming enthusiasm that the schools, the city and county governments and all the communities in the valley joined with the MIA to sponsor the event.



ReNee Thacker (Carlile) reigned as Wasatch County Queen during Utah's Centennial Celebration in 1947. Attendants shown here on the county float were Nadene Sweat and Eileen Dearden.

John A. Anderson, stake YMMIA superintendent, and Josephine Broadbent, YLMIA president of the stake, were in charge of the celebration, assisted by members of their stake boards.

Individual communities in the valley held home-coming celebrations on July 24, which was a Thursday. Then on Friday, July 25, the whole stake joined together for a program and celebration on the Tabernacle grounds. A grand parade, baseball at the city park, a free barbeque at which three beef were roasted, rodeo, wrestling matches, an operetta by the Primary children, fireworks from an airplane and a dance were some of the events held during this day. Then on Saturday, July 26, family



Charles E. Bronson, now 86 years old, and still active with the Heber Riding Club, lead the Wasatch County Centennial Parade in 1959.



"Queens of Yesteryear" at the 1959 Wasatch County Centennial celebration were, left to right: Alice Wagstaff Thacker, attendant; Minnie Lindsay Crook, queen; and Elizabeth Anderson Moulton, attendant.

meetings, outings and genealogical sessions were conducted, concluded on Sunday, July 27 with sessions of the stake quarterly conference.

Another significant celebration came in 1947 when throughout the state the Church observed the 100th anniversary of the arrival of the Mormon Pioneers. Wasatch Stake held a valley-wide celebration from July 15 through 19 and in addition hosted the Black Hawk Encampment.



The Wasatch County Dairy Princess and her court during the 1959 County Centennial celebration were, left to right, Connie Pope, attendant; Connie North, princess; Linda McGuire and Mary Alder, attendants.

The county fair was also planned for that time. A parade, featuring Miss ReNee Thacker as Wasatch County Queen was held. Attendants to the queen were Miss NaDene Sweat and Miss Eileen Dearden.

When the regular Wasatch County Fair was begun in 1925, Lyman Rich was appointed chairman and served until 1929. Other chairmen during the years have included J. M. Ritchie, 1930-38; H. Clay Cummings, 1939; J. A. Anderson, 1940; R. C. Draper, 1941 and 1943; John A. Anderson, 1947; Louis J. Adams, 1948-49; W. J. Bond, 1950; Myron C. Gale, 1951-52; Arvel McAfee, 1953 to 1960 and J. W. Jordan, 1960-. No fairs were held in 1942 or from 1944 to 1947 because of wartime conditions.

An outstanding fair and celebration was held in 1959 when Wasatch County celebrated its centennial. Former residents came from all parts of the country to enjoy the many entertainments and reunions. Several queens and their attendants were honored, including Minnie L. Crook,



Queen of the 1959 Wasatch County Centennial was Marion Johnson, center. Her attendants were Beverly Seiter, left and Joan Ritchie, right.

"Sweetheart of Yesteryears," with her attendants Elizabeth Moulton and Alice Thacker. "Miss Wasatch of 1959" was Marion Johnson, with attendants Joan Ritchie and Beverly Seiter. "Miss Dairy Princess" was Connie North, with attendants Mary Alder, Linda McGuire and Connie Pope.

Parades, band concerts, displays, exhibits, carnival rides and attractions, beard growing contests, suppers, luncheons and barbeques, flower shows and entertainment programs were all combined to make the 100th birthday party a celebration long to be remembered. Chairmen of the centennial event were Arvel and Dove McAfee.

Another cultural endeavor promoted by the county commission was the establishment of a county library. The first action on a library came April 10, 1919, when money was approved and a board of directors appointed.

The library was to be located in Heber City, and quarters were selected above the Heber Mercantile Company. Members of the first board of directors included John M. Ritchie, John A. Fortie, Storm McDonald, Nellie C. DeGraff and Ida Wootton. A tax levy not to exceed one mill on each dollar of taxable property in the county was approved to be used in establishing and maintaining the library. All other efforts to establish a library, such as the Heber City Library in 1907 and the early Literary Club Library, were merged with the county library when it was established.



Beard growing was a popular contest during the 1959 County Centennial Celebration. Some of the prize "crops" are shown here on their owners, left to right, seated: Jack Moulton, Reg Tadd, Willis Clyde, Ray Kohler and Charles McPhie; and standing, left to right, Glen Jensen, Albert Winterrose, Grant Giles, Ken Ryan, Leslie McPhie, Stacey Murdock and Farrell Reynolds.

Quarters above the mercantile store were used for a short time and then the library was moved to part of the Heber Merc that had been occupied by the C. W. & M. Company. It was there until 1937 when fire destroyed the building and the entire library, except for books on loan at the time.

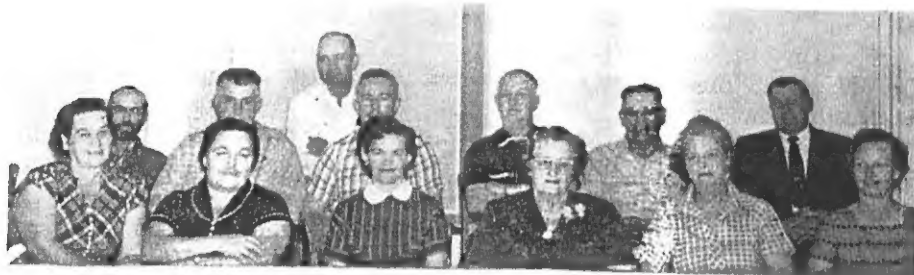
Temporary quarters were given to the library in the L.D.S. Seminary Building near Wasatch High School, and investigations were started to find another site. A building at the site of the present Ideal Cafe was rented, and then on August 30, 1938, a new building was begun as a cooperative venture with the county and the Works Progress Administration. Gronamon & Son, Contractors of Provo received the bid for construction for \$21,990. The completed building was accepted on October 6, 1939. The library continued its growth in new quarters under the able direction of Mrs. Nellie C. DeGraff.

Another library milestone came in 1952 when the library board and the Wasatch County Board of Education signed an agreement on May 14, to consolidate the facilities, books, financial resources and personnel of the county and school libraries. The joint administration, which improved services and facilities for both groups, has continued from September, 1952 to the present time. The capable, efficient librarian is Clyde Muir.



Co-Chairmen of the 1959 Wasatch County Centennial celebration were Arvel and Dove McAfee.

Members of the county commission also cooperated in improving Memorial Hill as a monument to servicemen of World War I. Main impetus for the memorial came from H. Clay Cummings and Sumner Hatch, officers of the Lockhart Post of the American Legion. D. A. Broadbent was also instrumental in having legislation passed enabling counties in the state to levy local taxes for memorial purposes. With these funds Wasatch County was able to purchase the hill and surrounding land. Much of the land was purchased from Elijah Watkins. Under Mr. Broadbent's personal supervision the spiral road up to the hill was constructed, and a memorial and beacon placed on top. The beacon was lighted each evening until vandals and pot-shot riflemen destroyed it beyond repair.



Members of the 1959 Wasatch County Centennial celebration fair board, left, front row, left to right, Dove McAfee, LaPreal Barnes, Betty Jones, Ida Watkins, Emily Conrad and Mary Bacon. Back row, left to right, Leslie McPhie, Wilson Young, William Sweeney, Earl Smith, William Jordan, Don Barker and Arvel McAfee, back.

Other projects promoted by the commission have included erection of a Memorial Building and fire station in 1934; construction of the Heber Valley Airport; establishment of transmitter stations to improve television reception in the valley and many zoning projects that have enhanced property values throughout the county.



The Wasatch County Library constructed in 1938 and 1939.

Through sound budgetary policies, most of the county roads are hard surfaced and maintained in good condition. Funds are also being set aside for construction of a new courthouse. By the time work begins, funds will have been accumulated to permit payment without burdensome bonding programs.

For over a century the selectmen and commissioners of Wasatch County have given mature, devoted and wise leadership in helping the county to grow and to provide the services necessary for comfortable, safe living.

Even though salaries have never been enough and rewards have had to come through the joys of service, those who have served could, almost in a chorus, join with the selectmen of some 70 years ago who recorded in their minutes at the close of a lengthy session of problems, complaints, rulings and decisions, "They adjourned the Court and departed, feeling pretty well satisfied with their labors."